Vol. XI. Numb. 49.

THE OBSERVATOR.

Roger's *Diſcourſe with his Maſter about a ROYAL* Aſs-Houſe, *and what may be meant by ROYAL ASSES.* Roger *asks his Maſter why the Pretender aſſumes the Title of* Chevalier de St. George? *The* Obſervator *proves from the Jeſuits Memorial for the Reformation of* England, *found in the late King* James's *Cloſet, that an Order of this Nature was to be inſtituted for deſtroying all the Proteſtants in* England. Roger's *Opinion, that our* Sacheverelite *Mobs, the late* Mohawks, *the* Iriſh Hochers of Cattle, *and the* Scotch Rabblers, *would be very fit Dragoons to ſerve under this Order of Knights.*

From Saturday, June 14. to Wedneſday, June 18. 1712.

Countrym. WE had ſome Diſcourſe about Aſſes laſt time, Maſter; I want to have a little further Chat with you upon the Subject, becauſe I find that an Aſs is a Creature of greater Dignity than it is commonly taken to be.

Obſ. I have heard of a Learned Author, *Roger*, that wrote a whole Treatiſe, call'd, *Encomium Aſini*, or, The Praiſe of an Aſs. I fancy thou haſt met with it, thy Head runs ſo much upon Aſſes.

Countrym. I can't ſay I met with that Book, Maſter, but I hit upon ſomething like it; for t'other Morning as I was taking a Walk towards *Hackney*, I came to a place, where among other Cottages, I ſaw one call'd *The ROYAL Aſs-Houſe*. Bleſs me! thought I, does Royalty ſtoop ſo low as to dignify Aſſes? But my Wonder ceas'd when I conſider'd the Sign a little more attentively, and obſerv'd inſtead of an ordinary Milk Wench, one as gay as my Lady's Chamber Maid, diſtributing Aſſes Milk in a Golden Cup to a Spark in a Laced Coat with an Iron bound Hat, and fine Knuckle Clouts, *&c.* This made me fancy I had miſtaken my Way, for I thought that was the wrong End of the Town for a *ROYAL Aſs-Houſe*. Then I begun to debate with my ſelf who were the Royal Aſſes meant by the Sign, the four footed Beaſts, or ſuch two legged ones as the Spark and the Maid.

Obſ. You had beſt conſult the *Oxford* Almanack Maker, *Roger*, for he is the beſt verſed of any body I know in High Church Hieroglyphics, and I ſuppoſe is very capable to tell the *Chevalier de St. George*, who they ſay is ſent out by the *French* King to *ſeek the Aſſes of his ſuppoſed Father*, where he may find them ready ſaddled and bridled.

Countrym. I have heard *Oliver* mightily exclaim'd againſt, Maſter, and I think very juſtly too, becauſe he turn'd Churches into Stables for Horſes. I hope our Tantivy Faction will not be guilty of a more ſcandalous Profanation, by turning Churches and Chappels into Stalls for Aſſes.

Obſ. I don't know what they may do, *Roger*, when their *St. Germains* King arrives; for you know he is Head of their Church, and may put it to what uſe he pleaſes. His ſuppoſed Uncle and Father, and others of his pretended Kin-Folks, have made no ſcruple to fill a great Chappel with as many Aſſes as they could; and to ſhew their Munificence to be greater than that of the King of *Perſia* who feeds his Aſſes in Mangers of Gold, they fed their Royal Aſſes with *Aurum Potabile*.

Countrym. At that rate, Maſter, 'tis a good thing to be a Royal Aſs; yet I had rather be like that of *Baalam*, which reprov'd the Madneſs of the Prophet, who for the ſake of a perſecuting King's Gold would needs curſe thoſe from the *High Church* Altars whom God did bleſs from the *Low* ones. But, Maſter, can you tell me why the *St. Germains* Spark is call'd the *Chevalier de St. George?* I never yet met with any body that could give me the Reaſon.

Obſ. I believe I can help you to it, *Roger*, from very good Authority. You know that he never aſſum'd this Title in publick till he ſet out from the Court of *France* on a Deſign to invade *Great Britain* and dethrone the Queen. You know alſo that the *French* King did then preſent him with a rich Sword, and bid him remember 'twas *entirely French*. With this Sword he was to kill the *Dragon* of the REVOLUTION that had ſwallow'd up the *Indefeaſible Hereditary Right*; and when he had kill'd that, he was to butcher all the Hereticks, according to the Plan laid down in the Jeſuit *Parſon*'s *Memorial for the Reformation of England*, which was found at the time of the Revolution in the late K. *James*'s Cloſet, and recommended to Mr. *Gee*, who publiſh'd it by the Lord Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*, then Lord Almoner to King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and now Lord Biſhop of *Worceſter*.

Countrym.

Countrym. Who was Mr. *Gee*, Maſter?

Obſ. He was *Rector of St.* Benedict Paul's Wharf, *Roger, and Chaplain in Ordinary to their Majeſties*, and the Book was printed in 1690. for Mr. *Chiſwell* at the *Roſe* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's Church-yard.* In *p.* 80. the Jeſuit propoſes a *New Order of* Engliſh *Knights*, who ſhould take the Name and Protection of ſome Holy *King of* England; or, *of all the Holy Kings joyntly*, or, of St. GEORGE; and this Order of Knighthood was firſt to be employed in *Fighting* AGAINTS HERETICKS, and when Hereſy ſhould fail, they were then to keep our Seas from Pirates, and our Land from Theft. Now, *Roger*, I hope you may eaſily gueſs the Reaſon and Deſign of the Pretender's aſſuming to himſelf the Title of the *Chevalier de St.* George. He is to be the Head of that Military Order, to *Hunt down all the Proteſtants of* Great-Britain *and* Ireland, according to this Plan, which was found in the Cloſet of his pretended Father; and, as the Editor ſuppoſes, was *the moſt Authentick, if not the only Copy in* England, *preſented by the Jeſuits to the late King James.* This agrees ſo well with that Prince's laſt Will and Directions which he left at his Death, according to all the Accounts we had from *France*, that there is no doubt but the Pretender will think himſelf obliged by *filial Obedience* to his moſt Holy Father the Pope, as well as to his *ſuppoſed Natural Father*, to put it in Execution *alamode de* Lewis *XIV*, *who boaſts of it as the chief Glory of his Reign, that he has extirpated Hereſie out of his own Dominions.*

Countrym. I thank you, Maſter, for this Information, Maſter; I'm afraid that our *High-Church Clergy*, who are ſo much for the *Indefeaſible Hereditary Right*, have Bottle Screws in their Pockets, inſtead of this Book, which is of ſo ſmall a Bulk, that I think every true Proteſtant Clergyman ſhould have one of them as a *Vade Mecum.* This ſerves to explain the Meaning of our *Sacheverellite Mobs*, our late *Mohawks*, the *Iriſh* Hochers of Cattle, and the *Scotch Mobs*, who rabbled and inſulted the Eſtabliſh'd Clergy. Theſe Ruffians would make very good Dragoons under the Conduct of ſuch an Order of Knights for the Purpoſes above-mention'd, eſpecially when joyn'd by ſome Squadrons from *Calais* in the Gulleys, which the *French* Court have now order'd thither; or by ſome Battalions on Board the *French* Fleet from *Thoulon* and *Breſt*, that has been hovering ſo long about *Cadiz.* But, Maſter, you know that the Faction ſays the Chevalier is to turn Proteſtant, and will confirm the Church of *England*, in all Her Rights and Privileges. How d'ye anſwer that?

Obſ. His ſuppos'd Father pretended to be a Proteſtant for many Years, *Roger*, though at the ſame time he was a Papiſt; and he did likewiſe promiſe, when he came to the Crown, that he would ſupport the Church of *England.* You alſo know, that our High-Church Clergy preached up that Aſſurance as their greateſt Security, becauſe the Promiſe of a Prince who was never worſe than his Word.

Countrym. I remember that very well, Maſter, and that when the King took his Word again, the Clergy made bold to take their Oaths again too; and as we ſaid laſt Day,

The Pulpit Drum Eccleſiaſtick,
Was beat with Fiſt, inſtead of a Stick.

Which put an End to the Puppet Show of Paſſive-Obedience for that time, though they have now brought it in Faſhon again. But pray, Maſter, go on.

Obſ. If the Chevalier ſhould pretend in his Declaration to ſupport the Church of *England*, it would be no more than what he is directed to do by *p.* 32 of the Jeſuits Memorial, where he ſays, '*Perchance it would be good*, conſidering the preſent State of the Realm, and how generally and deeply it is, and has been plung'd in all kind of Hereſies, *not to preſs any Man's Conſcience at the Beginning for Matters of Religion for ſome few Years.*' But he pulls off the Maſk afterwards, and is for eſtabliſhing an Inquiſition, *p.* 98, and 99, according to the Manner of *Spain.* But more of theſe Things, and how the Jeſuit is for diſpoſing of the Church Lands, and Proteſtant Clergy and Laity, *Roger*, another time.

MRS Elizabeth Tutchin continues to keep her School at Highgate, notwithſtanding Reports to the contrary. Where young Gentlewomen may be ſoberly Educated, and taught all ſorts of Learning fit for them.

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